

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-07

EUR-12 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 NRC-05 /128 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9508

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

ERDA GERMANTOWN MD

IAEA VIENNA 2886

NATO 3766

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

USUN NY 2934

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3111

DISTO

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJ: CCD-FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARD CCD

1. AT APRIL 22 WESTERN MEETING, DUTCH, GERMAN, ITALIAN AND
CANADIAN REPS REPORTED ON THEIR GOVERNMENTS' DEMARCHE TO FRENCH
TO PROBE CURRENT FRENCH THINKING ON QUESTION OF TAKING SEAT IN
CCD. VAN DER KLAUW (NETHERLANDS) SAID THAT FRENCH DIRECTOR
GENERAL OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS (DE LABOULAI) TOLD DUTCH OPPOSITE
NUMBER ON MARCH 30 THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN PRINCIPLE
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IN FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARD CCD. HIS GOVERNMENT VIEWED PRESENT

STRUCTURE, MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK AS DEFECTIVE. ANY REFORMS WOULD HAVE TO DEAL WITH ALL THREE OF THESE ASPECTS. IF CHANGES WERE MADE IN ALL THREE, FRANCE WOULD BE WILLING TO RECONSIDER ITS ATTITUDE. HOWEVER, THE INITIATIVE WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN BY CCD. DE LABOULAI ADDED THAT QUESTION OF CHINESE MEMBERSHIP WOULD BE IMPORTANT, BUT WAS NOT A CONDITION TO FRANCE JOINING CCD.

2. SCHLAICH (FRG) REPORTED THAT DE LABOULAI HAD GIVEN FRG MUCH THE SAME STORY, BUT HAD INDICATED THAT, IF CHANGES WERE MADE, FRANCE WOULD EXAMINE ISSUE "VERY OBJECTIVELY AND IN A POSITIVE WAY." DE LABOULAI FELT THAT CCD MIGHT CREATE AN EMPTY CHAIR FOR CHINA. HE ALSO SAID THAT, IN VIEW OF MASSIVE CRITICISM OF CCD, IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT UN AD HOC COMMITTEE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT CCD BE REBORN IN ANOTHER FORM WHERE ALL COUNTRIES INTERESTED IN DISARMAMENT COULD PARTICIPATE OR BE REPRESENTED. HE IMPLIED THAT FRANCE MIGHT SPEAK TO THIS EFFECT IN THE AD HOC COMMITTEE.

3. DIBERNARDO (ITALY) REPORTED THAT ITALIAN EMBASSY IN PARIS HAD THOUGHT THIS WAS AN INAPPROPRIATE TIME TO APPROACH THE FRENCH DUE TO PRESENT POLITICAL SITUATION, WHICH WAS MAKING THE ADMINISTRATION WOO THE GAULLISTS. HOWEVER, THEIR MINISTER COUNSELOR DID HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH DE LABOULAI WHO SAID THAT IT WOULD NOT BE ENOUGH TO CHANGE PRESENT STRUCTURE OF THE CCD IN SMALL WAYS. SITUATION WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE TRULY REPRESENTATIVE.

4. BARTON (CANADA) SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD ALSO HAD SOME DISCUSSIONS IN WHICH THE FRENCH HAD CRITICIZED THE COMPOSITION OF THE CCD MEMBERSHIP, STATING THAT COUNTRIES WITH SUBSTANTIAL MILITARY POWER, LIKE AUSTRALIA, SHOULD BE INCLUDED. BARTON BELIEVED THE FRENCH ENJOYED PRESENT SITUATION WITH THEIR EMPTY CHAIR, AS IT LEFT ALL THEIR OPTIONS OPEN.DALE

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